

Minutes of Special and Regular Meeting of September 25, 2018

One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA

SPECIAL MEETING

CLOSED SESSION [Third Floor Conference Room]

Conference With Labor Negotiators (Govt Code Section 54957.6)

Agency designated representatives: District Manager Greg Scoles

Employee organization: Belmont Firefighters Association Local 2400

Conference With Legal Counsel (Govt Code Section 54956.9(d)(4))

Anticipated Litigation/Initiation of Litigation: One or more cases

Conference With Legal Counsel (Gov't Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))

Existing Litigation: Jacobs v. Belmont Fire Protection District, N.D. Cal. 3:18-cv-05823-JSC

STUDY SESSION

Belmont Government 101

Participate in a presentation and discussion of Belmont city government legal structure and operational rules, including the roles of elected and appointed officials, statutory city officers, open government laws, and other general laws affecting city operation

This matter was continued.

ADJOURNMENT 7:00 P.M.

Attended by: Councilmembers Lieberman, Hurt, Stone, Mates, Kim

Terri Cook
City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER 7:05 PM

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Lieberman, Hurt, Stone, Mates, Kim

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by City Clerk Cook

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Rennie stated that a tentative agreement has been reached on the Memorandum of Understanding with the Belmont Firefighters Association Local 2400, and that there is nothing to report regarding the other matters heard in Closed Session.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Save the Music Presentation (October 14, 2018)

Alan Sarver provided an update regarding activities taking place at the upcoming Save the Music Festival for 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Laurie Kretchmar, Sequoia Healthcare District, described activities and classes that are available and recommended for those over age 60.

Kathleen Beasley, Belmont Library Manager, provided an update on upcoming election-related seminars and activities to be held at the library.

COUNCILMEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Stone spoke regarding the recent Carlmont High School Academic Foundation fundraiser and the County Emergency Preparedness Day. He noted the upcoming Candidate Night. He stated that some students have a goal of lowering the voting threshold age for school district elections.

Councilmember Lieberman commented regarding the recent Battle of the Badges softball game.

Mayor Kim thanked City staff for fixing the Belmont entry way sign after a car accident. He attended the Governor's Global Climate Change Summit in San Francisco. He spoke regarding the recent coastal cleanup day and the City of Belmont employee picnic. He announced an upcoming San Carlos Airport meeting regarding noise, as well as Congresswoman Speier's Town Hall on the San Francisco Airport noise. He announced the upcoming Waterdog Run, Veterans Memorial ceremony, NDNU (Notre Dame de Namur) history talk, and Fun Fit Family Day at Barrett.

DISCUSSION REGARDING CONSENT ITEMS

Mayor Kim requested the removal of Consent Calendar item regarding the Economic and Planning Services contract for separate consideration.

Report on Summer Off Leash Hours at Barrett

Parks and Recreation Director Shearer provided a recap of the two-year pilot program for some off-leash hours at Barrett Community Center, and described ongoing issues. She outlined the discussion that took place at a recent Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, and clarified that the Commission recommended revisiting this matter at the conclusion of the current AYSO season.

Mayor Kim suggested giving consideration for extending evening hours beyond August 15 in subsequent years.

Councilmember Stone expressed concerns regarding the extension of off-leash hours into the AYSO season.

Grand Jury Report on “Soaring City Pension Costs”

Finance Director Fil summarized the responses to key recommendations.

Perry Kennan, Belmont resident, commented regarding grand jury recommendations.

Councilmember Stone noted that the City of Belmont is already doing some of the recommendations in the grand jury report. He pointed out that the City Council had a recent discussion regarding pension obligations and noted that the Grand Jury is made up of citizens, not experts.

Mayor Kim clarified that the City has a plan to address pension costs.

Finance Director Fil described the City’s five-year plan.

Councilmember Lieberman commented regarding the oversight of Belmont’s finances and expressed his confidence in the finance staff to continue to address pension costs. He noted his respect for the Grand Jury, and pointed out that some recommendations are not applicable to Belmont.

Councilmember Hurt expressed support for the proposed response to the grand jury report.

ITEMS APPROVED ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Special and Regular Meeting of August 28, 2018

Minutes of Special and Regular Meeting of September 11, 2018

Receive an informational update on the Summer Off-Leash Hours at Barrett Community Center and provide direction if necessary

Approve the City of Belmont’s response letter to the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury Report Draft Response Letter to the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury

San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury Report

Resolution 2018-079 approving a three-year service agreement between the City of Belmont and Industrial Employers and Distributors Association, Inc. (IEDA) for labor negotiation services

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Stone, seconded by Councilmember Mates, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved, as amended.

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

Service Agreement with Economic and Planning Systems, Inc. to provide public financing advisory and implementation services, and authorize the City Manager to issue a Task Order for Phase I services in an amount not to exceed \$119,970

Mayor Kim commented regarding the importance of contract to address policies in the Belmont Village Specific Plan, and that he does not support the proposed agreement, as he would like information regarding the competitive bidding for city contracts.

Finance Director Fil described the process for qualification of the proposed vendor. He noted this matter could be tabled to provide information on how the vendor was selected. Council concurred.

OTHER BUSINESS

Review Solid Waste Rate Application and Revise Maximum Rate for Collection Services for 2019

Solid Waste Consultant Korn provided an overview of the franchise agreement and rate-setting process. He described the establishment of a rate stabilization fund, and pointed out that an additional adjustment to the 20-gallon cart size is being proposed to move towards the actual cost to service the cart.

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Stone, seconded by Councilmember Hurt, Resolution 2018-080 stating the City of Belmont's intent to revise the maximum rate that may be charged for solid waste, recyclable materials, and organic materials collection services effective January 1, 2019, and set a Public Hearing date for November 27, 2018 was unanimously approved.

MATTERS OF COUNCIL INTEREST/CLARIFICATION (Items taken out of order)

Consider an ordinance that would regulate the sale of flavored tobacco products (Doug Kim)

Mayor Kim requested that the City Council approve research for a potential future ordinance to regulate flavored tobacco, especially as it relates to youth. He provided statistics regarding the use of e-cigarettes among youth.

Councilmember Stone expressed support for more research, but pointed out that he would like to continue working on existing priorities. He cited the need for input from staff regarding capacity to take on additional projects.

Craig Wingate, San Mateo County Tobacco Prevention Program, stated that use by youth is on the rise, and noted that flavors are appealing to them. He pointed out that chemicals in e-cigarettes contain carcinogens, and nicotine can alter the brain. He stated that the use of e-cigarettes can lead to traditional cigarette use.

Amanda Gutzwiller, American Lung Association, supports restrictions to prevent the next generation of tobacco users. She suggested tobacco retail licensing to govern flavored tobacco.

Hani Tannous, Belmont business owner, noted that his business does not sell to minors. He pointed out that that adults are using vaping to discontinue traditional cigarette use.

Councilmember Mates expressed support for further discussion on this matter.

Councilmember Stone suggested forming a Council subcommittee.

Councilmember Lieberman expressed concern that flavored vaping products are undoing the progress that has been made regarding smoking reduction.

Councilmember Hurt noted the need to look at on-line purchasing, and this issue may be beyond just flavored vaping. She supports removing vaping from youth.

Mayor Kim expressed support for a subcommittee.

Councilmember Stone suggested meeting with stakeholders regarding the potential regulation of flavored tobacco, and cessation of use by minors.

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Stone, seconded by Councilmember Lieberman, and unanimously approved to form a subcommittee to consist of Mayor Kim and Vice Mayor Hurt.

Rename Grove Around Veterans Memorial in Honor of Former Mayor Eric Reed

Councilmember Stone noted that residents have approached him about finding a way to commemorate former Councilmember and Mayor Eric Reed. He described Councilmember Reed's effort to have a Veterans Memorial dedicated in Twin Pines Park and suggested that the grove surrounding the it could be a good location for a memorial for him.

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Lieberman, seconded by Councilmember Stone, and unanimously approved to rename the grove around the Veterans Memorial in Honor of Former Mayor Eric Reed.

COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, AND COUNCIL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ASSIGNMENT UPDATES, AND STAFF ITEMS

Verbal report from Councilmembers on Intergovernmental (IGR) and Subcommittee Assignments

Councilmember Lieberman reported on a recent Fire JPA meeting.

Councilmember Hurt stated she attended a recent Rethink Waste subcommittee meeting, a Commute.org meeting, and an Emergency Services Council meeting.

Councilmember Stone stated he attended a recent Sam Trans meeting as well as a San Mateo County Library JPA meeting.

Mayor Kim noted the upcoming Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) event, and he commented on the recent San Francisco Airport Roundtable and C/CAG meetings.

Verbal report from Acting City Manager

Acting City Manager Oskoui noted that the Friends of the Belmont Library contributed to the poet laureate program. He announced that the Belmont Park Boosters contributed funds to purchase a shade structure for O'Donnell Park and lighting for the Cottage. He noted the ongoing efforts on the Twin Pines Master Plan outreach efforts. He provided an update regarding the recent Coastal Cleanup Day and announced an upcoming open house for the Ralston Corridor Plan.

ADJOURNMENT 9:50 P.M.

Terri Cook
City Clerk